

HONORING WILLIAM "BILL" COTTER

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, today I recognize William "Bill" Cotter, who will retire this year after 23 years of service to the economic development authority for Hancock County, Mississippi—home to Port Bienville, Stennis International Airport, and NASA's Stennis Space Center.

Bill has served with the Port and Harbor Commission for over two decades in various roles, including Stennis International Airport Director, agency chief operations officer, and Chief Executive Officer since 2021.

During his tenure as airport director, Cotter helped guide Stennis Airport's recovery from Hurricane Katrina and coordinated the airfield activities during the BP Deepwater Horizon response. Since 2005, he has overseen nearly \$40 million in capital improvements at the airport, including the construction of the air traffic control tower, aircraft hangars, and the terminal building. As COO, Port Bienville Industrial Park's existing docks were refurbished and improved, and construction began on a new 600-foot dock, which will be completed later this year.

Among other accomplishments, Cotter was instrumental in attracting a line of companies that resulted in Tyonek Service Group's operation in Hancock County. This Department of Defense contractor performs maintenance, repair, and overhaul operations for military aircraft. It is one of 30 companies at Port Bienville and the Stennis International Airport that together employ nearly 1,000 people.

Upon retirement after a lifelong career in aviation and economic development, he and his wife, Suzanne Corso, plan on spending time with their three children William "Billy", Melissa "Mimi" and Nicholas "Nick," and their seven grandchildren, Mera, Gencie, Graysion, William, Mia, Micah, and Kiara.

Bill has continuously gone above and beyond to leave things better than he found them. Please join me in thanking him for his outstanding accomplishments and dedication to making Hancock County one of Mississippi's most treasured counties. On behalf of South Mississippi, we wish you and Suzanne a long and healthy retirement.

CONGRATULATING THE ROCK ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY ON 150 YEARS OF ENRICHING AND CONNECTING THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rock Island Public Library on its 150th year of serving residents of Rock Island, Illinois, and the Quad-Cities region.

Founded on November 25, 1872, upon the passage of the Illinois Library Act, the Rock Island Public Library has been a core institution and forum for learning for all to utilize and

enjoy. This crucial public resource prides itself on its longevity and positive impact on its surroundings, and it has always helped to connect residents to information, services, events and each other. The renewed commitment of the Rock Island Public Library to offer equitable access to facilities and vibrant spaces where all are welcome, as well as a mandate to foster lifelong learning and education, aids in driving innovation across our region. It is a valuable member of Illinois' exemplary public library system.

It is because of vital pillars of the community, such as the Rock Island Public Library, that I am especially proud to represent Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again, formally recognize the Rock Island Public Library on its 150th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING THE BULLDOGS ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Ft. Zumwalt South Bulldogs on their victory in the Class 3 Girls Soccer State Championship.

The Bulldogs took home their second consecutive Class 3 title. The Bulldogs should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Please join me in recognizing the Bulldogs for a job well done.

HONORING COLONEL (RET) ROY GEORGE PLUMMER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a loving husband, dedicated father, distinguished Army Chaplain, humble pastor, veterans advocate, tireless community servant and my friend of longstanding, Colonel (Ret) Roy George Plummer. Sadly, Colonel Plummer transitioned from labor to reward on Sunday, October 23, 2022. A celebration of his life was held on Thursday, November 3, 2022 at the Columbus, Georgia Civic Center.

Roy George Plummer was born on February 6, 1938 in Saint Andrew Parish, Jamaica in the West Indies to the late Wilfred Plummer and Lucille Annita Plummer. He was reared by his grandmother, "Mama", in May Pen, Jamaica, attended school there and became a lightweight boxer in his youth before traveling to England and then to the United States. He attended Azusa Pacific University in California where he studied pre-law, but during his undergraduate studies he heard the Lord's call to Christian ministry which took him to the Phillips School of Theology in Atlanta, Georgia where he earned a Master of Divinity in 1969.

On January 4, 1971 Roy joined the United States Army as a Chaplain where for 23 years

he served the spiritual and pastoral needs of countless United States Army military and civilian personnel and their families, including at Atterberry Chapel in Frankfurt, Germany and Sightseeing Road Chapel at Fort Benning, Georgia. He attended and completed Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College. In 1994 he completed his active duty career as Chief of Chaplains and Post Command Chaplain at Fort Benning, retiring at the rank of Colonel.

Also in 1994, always "pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus", Colonel Plummer founded and became Senior Pastor and CEO of Faith Tabernacle Community Church, an active and growing congregation in Southeast Columbus.

Then, in 1998 while maintaining his pastoral ministry, he became Director of Army Instruction for the Muscogee County School District JROTC where he was responsible for 8 high school JROTC programs and 4 other County JROTC programs. He worked tirelessly to create a formidable program and under his leadership it grew from 400 to 1200 cadets and the Muscogee County School District JROTC program earned GHSA State Rifle Championships, State level awards in Drill Team and Raider competitions and honorable recognition in the annual JROTC Academic Bowl.

Known for his eloquent golden baritone voice with a pronounced British accent, Colonel Plummer was prolific in his community service. He was Chaplain for Rotary International District 6900; served on the boards of St. Francis Hospital Foundation; Columbus Hospice; United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley; Boy Scouts of America and the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. He served as Assistant Professor in the Department of Graduate Studies at Columbus State University, holding Masters degrees in Human Relations and Group Process; Guidance and Counseling; Pastoral Care and a Doctorate of Divinity.

Colonel Plummer's solid educational background, coupled with his compassion for "the least of these" inspired him to establish the Plummer Home for homeless and disenfranchised military veterans, providing support and resources to veterans who encountered severe challenges in their transition from military to civilian life. His legacy in the fight to eradicate homelessness among veterans and for expansion of veterans benefits will long be remembered.

Colonel Roy G. Plummer achieved countless successes in his life. But none would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of his Wife, Kenyetta, his 4 daughters and his 7 grandchildren.

On a personal note, Roy was my friend. He always supported and encouraged me with wise counsel and sage advice. His prayers were genuine. His friendship was golden. He will be sorely missed, but the world is better because of him.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join my wife, Vivian and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the 2nd District in honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Colonel (Ret) Roy George Plummer for his service to God, his Country and humanity and in extending our deepest condolences to his family,